

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5767

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATOMIN DEC 73: PRIVATE MEETING AT NAC MINISTERIAL

REF: (A) USNATO 5606, (B) STATE 233094

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD

1. SYG LUNS SPOKE TO ME PRIVATELY IN ADVANCE OF NOVEMBER 27 PERMREPS LUNCH ABOUT ATTENDANCE AT THE PROPOSED PRIVATE MEETING AMONG FOREIGN MINISTERS DURING THE DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL. LUNS RECALLED STRONG CONSENSUS AT LAST WEEK'S PERMREPS LUNCH THAT PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ATTEND PRIVATE MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS.

2. LUNS SAID THAT IN LIGHT OF PAST EXPERIENCE, IF MINISTERS AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ARE INCLUDED IN A MEETING, FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTORS GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS SHOULD PROBABLY BE THERE ALSO. IF NOT IT CAN CREATE PROBLEMS FOR ANY FOLLOW-UP TO MEETING, AND LUNS THEREFORE THOUGH PRIVATE MEETING SHOULD BE WITH FONMINS AND LUNS ALONE, OR SHOULD INCLUDE DIRECTORS GENERAL AND PERMREPS, PREFERABLY THE LATTER.

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3. AT PERMREPS LUNCH, LUNS SUGGESTED DIRECTORS GENERAL AND PERMREPS BE INCLUDED ALONG WITH MINISTERS. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, CONSENSUS WAS THAT ATTENDANCE SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO MINISTERS PLUS TWO OTHERS (DIRECTORS GENERAL AND PERMREPS) WITH LUNS, DEPUTY

SYG PANSA, SMALL NUMBER FROM INTERNATIONAL STAFF, AND JULIAN AMERY, UK MINISTER OF STATE, FCO, WHO WILL BE ATTENDING NAC. THERE WAS ALSO GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT MINISTERS WOULD SIT ALONE AT THE TABLE, AND THE MEETING WOULD BE IN A SMALLER ROOM.

4. CONSENSUS WAS THE MEETING SHOULD BE HELD AT 5:00 THE FIRST DAY, SO INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS COULD MEET WITH PRESS AT 6:00 AND STILL BE IN TIME FOR DINNER BY HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

5. ON CONTENT, ONE SUGGESTION WAS THAT ONLY SUBJECTS DISCUSSED BE ATLANTIC RELATIONS AND MIDDLE EAST. FRENCH PERMREP DE ROSE, HOWEVER, SUGGESTED IT WAS UP TO U.S. TO PROPOSE THE TOPIC OR TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION, SINCE US REQUESTED RESTRICTED MEETING.

6. IN LIGHT OF LUNS' AND ALLIED VIEWS REPORTED ABOVE AND IN REFTTEL, REQUEST ANY WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON PROPOSED ATTENDANCE, TIME AND ON U.S. DESIRES AS TO SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION.
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